



The Administration for Community Living programs support the National Quality Strategy through health-related long-term services and supports. The Administration for Community Living is focused on the unique needs of individual groups, such as people with developmental disabilities or seniors, as well as the common issues that face individuals who need community-based supports, to have the option of living in the community rather than in institutional settings. The Agency works to maximize the independence, well-being, and health of older adults, people with disabilities across the life span, and their families and caregivers by advancing effective policies, services, and supports.

The Administration for Community Living will continue to assist States with the development of well-managed, person-centered, long-term services and supports systems. These support systems include streamlined access through a “No Wrong Door” system in order to serve all long-term services and supports populations. All payers, providers, consumers, and families of consumers in these systems are provided with easy-to-understand information on all their options, such as one-on-one counseling, and assistance in navigating the application process(es) for the public program(s), for which they may be eligible. The Administration for Community Living will also use its existing authorities, including those provided under the Affordable Care Act, to help States direct more long-term services and supports funding to home- and community-based services and emphasize the use of person-centered planning and participant-directed models that give consumers more control over the services they receive, including the ability to hire and direct their own direct-care workers. In addition, the Agency will assist States in implementing comprehensive plans to support family caregivers that include the elements of information, training, respite, and peer support, as well as person-centered planning for families with school-age children with disabilities to help them make a successful transition into adulthood. Finally, the Administration for Community Living will work strategically over the coming years to systematically develop and implement a comprehensive set of quality measures that will be endorsed by the National Quality Forum and used by the Department of Health and Human Services, the States, and other public and private entities to help ensure that people with disabilities and older adults receive high-quality services and supports.

The Aging Services Program’s fundamental purpose, in combination with the legislative intent that the National Aging Services Network actively participate in supporting community-based services with particular attention to serving economically and socially vulnerable elders, led the Administration on Aging to focus on three measures: improving efficiency, improving client outcomes, and effectively targeting services to vulnerable elder populations. Each measure is representative of several activities across the Aging Services Program budget, and progress

toward achievement of each measure is tracked using a number of indicators. The efficiency measure and corresponding indicators are reflective of the Office of Management of Budget requirements to measure efficiency for all program activities. The client outcome measure includes indicators focusing on consumer assessment of service quality and outcome indicators focusing on nursing home predictors, successful caregiver program operation, and protection of the vulnerable elderly. The targeting measure and indicators focus on ensuring that States and communities serve the most vulnerable elders.

The Administration for Community Living is dedicated to ensuring that individuals with developmental disabilities and their families are able to fully participate in and contribute to all aspects of community life in the United States and its territories under the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000 (DD Act). The purpose of the DD Act is “to assure that individuals with developmental disabilities and their families participate in the design of and have access to needed community services, individualized supports, and other forms of assistance that promote self-determination, independence, productivity, and integration and inclusion in all facets of community life, through culturally competent programs.” By continually reviewing and modifying the performance measurement and data reporting activities under the DD Act, there is an increased focus on outcomes, including the establishment of performance measurement workgroups, enhancement and streamlining of data collection, and engagement with evaluation experts to recommend improvements.

The Administration for Community Living is the lead Agency on a Health and Human Services Department-wide project with the National Quality Forum to develop a home- and community-based services (HCBS) group that will develop a framework for measurement, including a definition of home- and community-based services; perform a synthesis of evidence and an environmental scan for measures and measure concepts; identify gaps in home- and community-based services measures based on the framework; and make recommendations for HCBS measure development efforts. More information can be found at [http://www.qualityforum.org/Measuring\\_HCBS\\_Quality.aspx](http://www.qualityforum.org/Measuring_HCBS_Quality.aspx).

In the upcoming year, the Administration for Community Living will continue to support the National Quality Strategy through health-related long-term services and supports through the administration of our programs authorized under the DD Act and the Older Americans Act. We will also continue to advance the goals in our strategic plan, including—

- Protecting the rights of people with disabilities and older adults, and preventing their abuse, neglect, and exploitation. Examples of how the Administration for Community Living has started to meet this goal include finalizing the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program rule; working to develop a national reporting system for Adult Protective Services.
- Updating the performance measurement and data reporting activities for the Protection and Advocacy Agencies.
- Working to finalize the DD Act regulations.
- Empowering people with disabilities and older adults to make informed decisions about their health and independence and to actively participate in the design and

implementation of the policies, programs, and systems that affect their lives. Examples of how the Administration for Community Living has started to meet this goal include funding a joint Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities/ Administration on Aging national technical assistance center on supported decision making and supporting a transportation project that empowers older adults and people with disabilities to engage with local and State departments of transportation.

- Enabling people with disabilities and older adults to remain in the community through the provision of long-term services and supports, including supports for family caregivers. The Administration for Community Living has started to meet this goal by funding Aging and Disability Resource Centers, which help older adults, people with disabilities, and their family caregivers learn about and access long-term services and supports in their communities, and by advancing an initiative in the President's fiscal year 16 budget request that would help States and communities demonstrate how to optimize the use of public and private resources to support families who are caring for their loved ones.
- Advocating on behalf of people with disabilities and older adults and ensuring their interests are reflected in the design and implementation of Federal policies and programs (e.g., Employment, Housing, Transportation). Examples of how the Administration for Community Living has started to meet this goal include weighing in on regulations such as the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services Settings and Department of Labor Companionship rules; assisting the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services with the rollout of the Settings rule; participating and leading intra/interagency workgroups on developmental and behavioral screening and support for children, families, and providers, elder justice, Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act advisory committee on integrated employment, and Federal Partners in Transition.
- Maintaining effective and responsive management.